

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission



Arizona Youth Survey 2006 Gambling Fact Sheet

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Arizona

February 2007

The 2006 administration of the Arizona Youth Survey was the first time in which questions were asked regarding adolescent gambling behavior. These questions were added based on research conducted in other states and in collaboration with the Office of Problem Gambling. In January 2007, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission published a youth gambling report entitled "2006 Arizona Youth Survey: Arizona Gambling Profile Report," which used the gam-

bling questions to provide estimates of youth non-gamblers, infrequent gamblers, and frequent gamblers. The report also compared those youth to measures of risk and protective factors, antisocial behavior, and substance use. This fact sheet provides a brief overview of the findings published in that report.

Table 1: Characteristics of Participants

Total Students	Non Gamblers		Infrequent Gamblers		Frequent Gamblers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
	18943	100	16279	100	13117	100
Grade						
8	6867	35.2	6689	34.3	5958	30.5
10	6431	39.1	5572	33.9	4453	27.1
12	5645	45.6	4018	32.5	2706	21.9
Gender						
Male	7259	32.7	7317	33	7590	34.2
Female	11231	44.9	8601	34.4	5177	20.7
Ethnicity						
African American	792	41	567	29.3	574	29.7
American Indian	939	36.1	780	30	881	33.9
Asian	533	48	372	33.5	205	18.5
Hispanic	5469	34.1	5309	33.1	5251	32.8
Pacific Islander	120	30.8	148	37.9	122	31.3
White	9805	42.9	8011	35	5049	22.1
Other	815	39.1	671	32.2	598	28.7

Gambling Behavior

Table 1 shows the characteristics of those students who responded to the gambling questions. Of those who responded to the gambling questions, 39.2% of students have never gambled, 33.7% of students are infrequent gamblers, and 27.1% are frequent gamblers. Examining just those youth who have gambled at least once in their lifetime, the results show that males are much more likely to have gambled than females, with 67.3% of males and 55.1% of females gambling in their lifetime.

Table 2 lists the different types of gambling behaviors that that youth were asked about in the survey. The three gambling activities that students have participated in the most in the 12 months prior to taking the survey are betting on team sports, playing cards for money, and playing the lottery.

Table 2: Responses to 2006 AYS Gambling

How often in the past 12 months have you:	Never	Not in the past year	A few times in the past year	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost everyday
Gambled at a Casino?	94.9%	2.4%	1.6%	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%
Played the lottery or scratch off tickets?	69.4%	7.8%	14.0%	5.4%	2.3%	1.1%
Bet on team sports?	66.0%	8.3%	13.4%	4.9%	2.8%	4.6%
Played cards for money?	66.9%	7.9%	13.7%	6.6%	3.0%	2.0%
Bet money on horse races?	92.7%	2.8%	2.3%	1.0%	0.6%	0.7%
Played bingo for money or prizes?	79.3%	7.3%	8.2%	2.8%	1.1%	1.2%
Gambled on the Internet?	92.4%	2.2%	2.0%	1.3%	0.9%	1.1%
Bet on dice games such as craps?	87.2%	3.4%	4.0%	2.4%	1.3%	1.6%
Bet on games of personal skill?	73.2%	6.3%	10.3%	5.0%	2.6%	2.5%

The data also allows examination of the risk and protective factors for those youth who are non-gamblers, infrequent gamblers, and frequent gamblers. According to Chart 1, as the frequency of gambling goes up, the risk factors are higher and the protective factors are lower in all instances.

Chart 1: Risk and Protective Factors by Type of Gambler

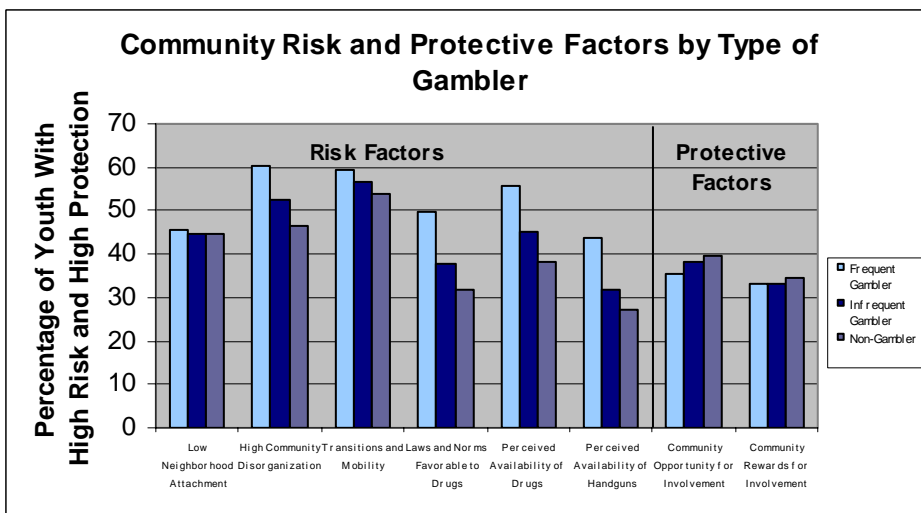
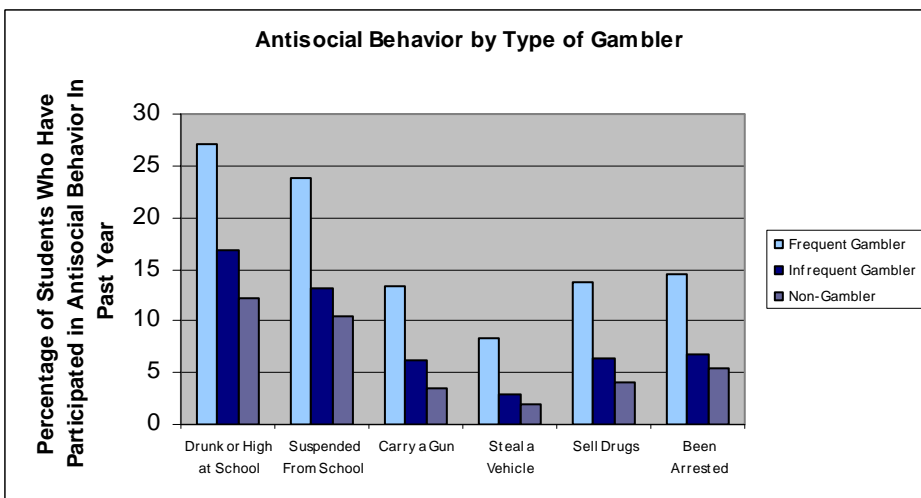


Table 3: Substance Use by Type of Gambler

	Frequent Gambler	Infrequent Gambler	Non-Gambler
Alcohol			
Lifetime Use	75.4	65.6	50.9
30-Day Use	47.7	35.7	25.9
Cigarettes			
Lifetime Use	50.9	40.4	31.9
30-Day Use	21.2	15.2	11.8
Chewing Tobacco			
Lifetime Use	18.5	10.5	6.6
30-Day Use	7.5	3.1	1.9
Marijuana			
Lifetime Use	39.5	29.2	23.5
30-Day Use	19.6	12.5	9.8
Inhalants			
Lifetime Use	17.8	13.9	8.1
30-Day Use	6.6	4.1	2.2
Hallucinogens			
Lifetime Use	5.8	3.4	2.4
30-Day Use	2.7	1.2	0.8
Cocaine			
Lifetime Use	10.3	6.5	5.1
30-Day Use	4.1	2.2	1.6
Sedatives			
Lifetime Use	17.6	14.8	9.5
30-Day Use	9.1	6.2	3.6
Stimulants			
Lifetime Use	8.4	6.6	4.1
30-Day Use	3.4	2.3	1.5
Ecstasy			
Lifetime Use	5.4	2.9	1.7
30-Day Use	2	0.6	0.5
Heroin			
Lifetime Use	3.3	1.7	1.2
30-Day Use	1.4	0.4	0.4
Methamphetamine			
Lifetime Use	6.6	4.2	3.3
30-Day Use	2.4	1	0.8
Steroid			
Lifetime Use	3.6	1.6	0.9
30-Day Use	2.1	0.5	0.4
Prescription drug			
Lifetime Use	19.1	16.4	10.5
30-Day Use	9.9	6.4	4.1

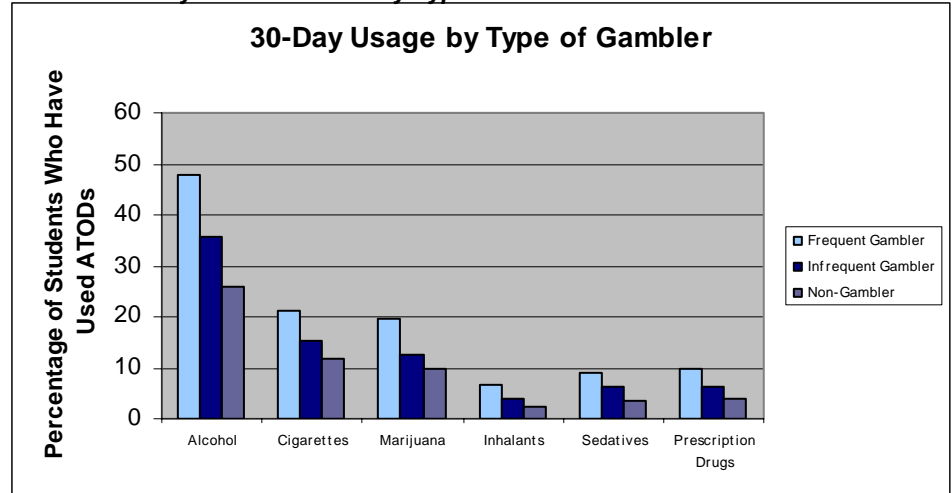
Chart 3: Antisocial Behavior by Type of Gambler



Substance Use and Gambling Behavior

Table 3 and Chart 2 show the frequency of all students who have used various drugs by type of gambling behavior. These data reveal that without exception, as the frequency of gambling behavior increase, so to does the percentage of youth using these substances. Consistent with all students surveyed, regardless of gambling behavior, the most commonly used drugs were alcohol, marijuana, prescription drugs, sedatives, and inhalants. Just as frequent gamblers used substances at a higher rate than infrequent gamblers and non-gamblers, frequent gamblers had a higher percentage of substance use than youth in Arizona as a whole.

Chart 2: 30-Day Substance Use by Type of Gambler



Antisocial Behavior and Gambling Behaviors

The relationship between frequency of gambling and antisocial behavior is similar to that between frequency of gambling and substance use and risk factors. Frequent gamblers are much more likely to have participated in antisocial behavior than infrequent gamblers and non-gamblers (Chart 3).

Frequent gamblers were also more likely than infrequent gamblers or non-gamblers to have carried a weapon on school property, been threatened or injured on school property, or been in a physical fight on school property.

The data from the gambling questions in the Arizona Youth Survey reveal that those who are more frequently involved in gambling also tend to have higher risk factors, lower protective factors, higher substance use, and higher levels of antisocial behavior. This information can be used to assist prevention and intervention efforts in the state, as well as at the county and local levels.

Methodology:

The 2006 Arizona Youth Survey was administered in schools representing all 15 counties in Arizona. The 2006 AYS consisted of data from 362 schools and 60,401 students. This is a significant increase over the 2004 AYS, which was comprised of 266 schools with a sample of 40,960 students.

This fact sheet was prepared by:
Michelle Neitch, Research Analyst
Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
1110 W. Washington, Suite 230
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(P) 602.364.1146
(F) 602.364.1175

Review full report at: www.azcjc.gov